

**In the Claims**

Please amend the claims as set forth below.

sub 37  
C1  
16. (Amended Twice) A method as set forth in claim 14, wherein said exchanging of said citrate and optionally of said citrate-bound metals is performed using a salt of said monocarboxylate, dicarboxylate, monocarboxylic or dicarboxylic acid and said monocarboxylate, dicarboxylate, monocarboxylic or dicarboxylic acid has 2 to 20 carbon atoms.